GOVERNMENT

OF THE

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Economic Survey

Village of ECKVILLE

DEPARTMENT OF ~~ECONOMIC~~ Industry AFFAIRS

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ECONOMIC SURVEY

VILLAGE OF ECKVILLE

BY

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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This survey was compiled with the assistance of Village Officials, Board of Trade and citizens who are familiar with the history of the village.

MAY 1950

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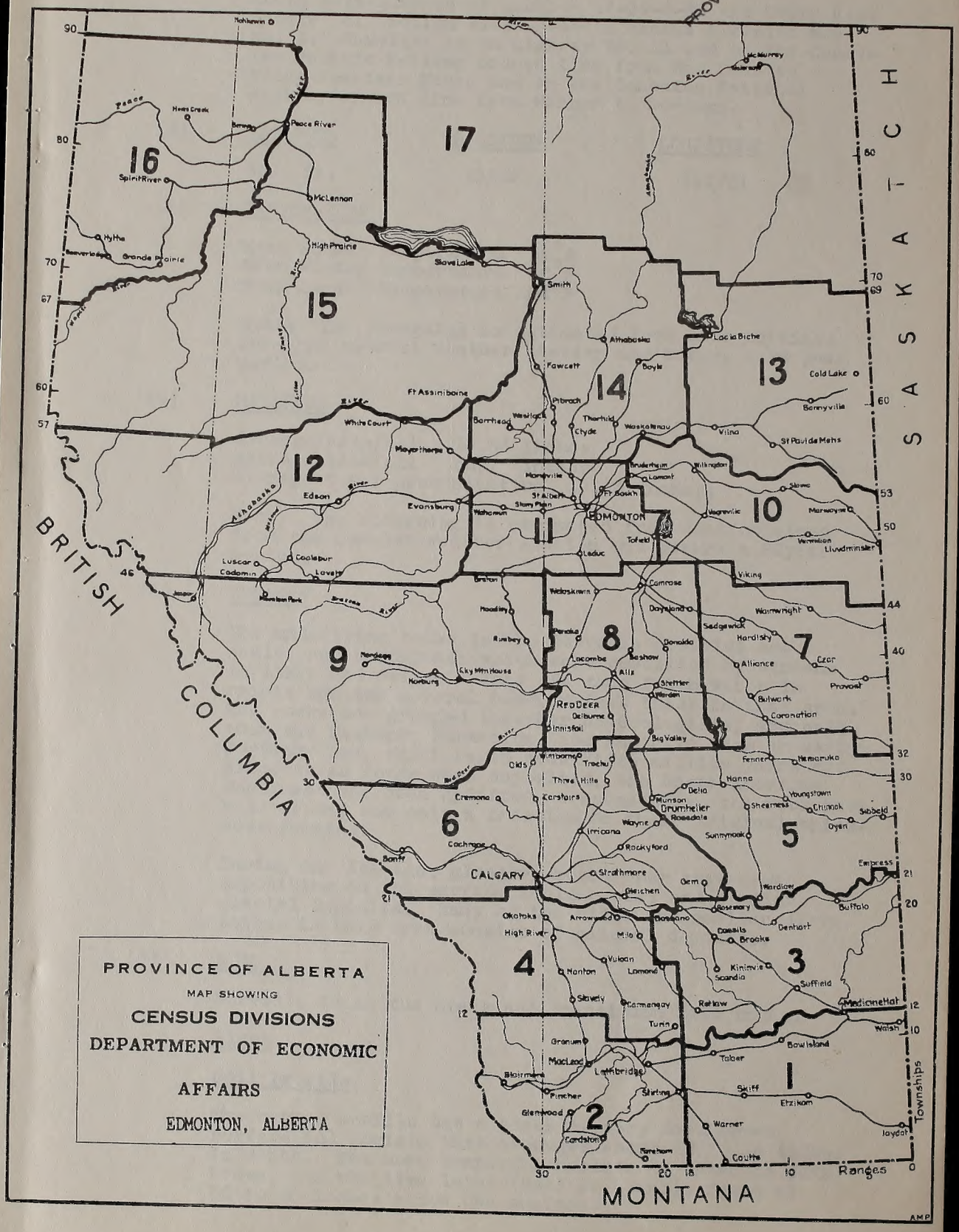

VILLAGE OF ECKVILLE

(1) LOCATION

North East quarter of section 16-39-3-W5 and South East quarter of section 21-29-3-W5 in census Division Map. No. 9. Eckville is on highway No. 11 and on the Canadian Pacific Railway branch line from Red Deer to Rocky Mountain House and on the Canadian National Railway branch line from Mirror to Nordegg.

(2)

ALTITUDE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
3044 ft.	52/22	114/21

(3) TEMPERATURE

Mean Summer Temperature 52°F
Mean Winter Temperature 20°F
Mean Annual Temperature 34°F

Note: The foregoing is estimated from data obtained from the nearest weather station and covers a 22 year period.

(4) RAINFALL

Average Rainfall 13.56 inches
Average Snowfall 55.7 inches
Average Total precipitation 19.13 inches.

Note: The foregoing is estimated from data obtained from the nearest weather station and covers a 22year period.

(5) GEOLOGY

The underlying rocks in the Eckville district are shales and sandstones which were deposited by streams in lakes and deltas. They are thus fresh water in origin and are several hundred feet thick in that area. The rocks are grouped together by Geologists, who call them the Paskapoo Formation, and who give them an early Tertiary Age, which began some fifty million years ago. Since these rocks were deposited, the North American Continent has been uplifted, consequently, the rock have been eroded and only a fraction of their original thickness remains.

During the Ice Age, glaciers moved over this area depositing on the surface boulder clay and similar glacial deposits. Many of the hills and smaller elevations in this area consist of glacial deposits.

(6) SOIL

Eckville is in the Black and Transition Soil zones.

Black

Soil Profile

The normal profile has a black to very dark brown surface (A) horizon that averages about 12 to 14 inches in depth. The more compact B horizon is brown to dark brown, and the lime layer (Bca) is usually found at 30 to 40 inches below the surface.

Transition

Soil Profile

Generally quite mixed, ranging from nearly black to gray The surface horizon consists of a thin layer of semi-decomposed litter (A0) which may be absent in burned over areas, underlain by a mineral horizon that can usually be divided into two parts. The upper (A) part may be black, gray black or dark brown. The lower part (A2) is frequently somewhat leached of organic matter and considerably grayer than the A1. The total depth of these surface horizons averages about 10 to 12 inches. The B horizons are generally dark brown in color and lime if found at depths of about 30 to 40 inches.

Black

Fertility

Soils in this zone are the most fertile in the province and they have in their surface foot about 3 to 4 times as much nitrogen and organic matter as there is in the average brown or gray wooded soil. Every precaution should be taken to see that they are not allowed to deteriorate.

Transition

Fertility

These soils are usually not as rich as those in the black zone. Leaching of the surface horizons has resulted in the loss of some plant foods.

Black

Vegetation

Grassland which has been partially invaded by woodlands (mainly deciduous trees) often referred to as a parkland.

Transition

Vegetation

Mainly woodlands in which the tree growth is frequently denser and has more evergreens than in the black zone.

Black

Land Use

A high percentage of the zone is arable. Wheat of fairly good quality can be grown, but mixed farming including the use of fertilizer when needed, is desirable from the stand point of both profit and permanence.

Transition

Land Use

This is a mixed farming area in which legumes, hays and coarse grains are the most desirable crops. Rotations including legumes and supplemented with fertilizers where needed, have given the most satisfactory results.

(7) HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Eckville derived its name from A. E. T. Eckford, early settler. The Canadian Pacific Railway Station is sometimes called Kootuk. The original town of Eckville was a mile and a half west of the present town site.

The first postmaster of Eckville was J. H. Kellick, who operated the Post office from his General Store.

With the coming of the Canadian National Railway in 1912 and the Alberta Central Railway (taken over by the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1914) the village and district had a large influx of homesteaders and town folk.

The first school was built in 1908 and is now used as a Church.

The first church to open in the village was the Presbyterian.

The Bank of Commerce opened a branch in Eckville in 1918 under the managership of J. W. MacIntosh.

(8) LIVING CONDITIONS

The streets and buildings of the village are clean and well kept. The surrounding country is rich mixed farming area.

Fifteen miles east of the village is Sylvan Lake, a popular resort for boating, fishing and swimming.

The average rent for a modern five room house with electricity is $30 per month.

Number of buildings built during 1947 - 4
Number of buildings built during 1948 - 5
Number of buildings built during 1949 - 4

About 90% of the homes are owner occupied.

(9) ADMINISTRATION

The village is governed by a council consisting of a Mayor selected from the Council and two Councillors, one elected each year for a three year term.

The Secretary-Treasurer carries out the policy set forth by the Council.

(10) LAWS AND REGULATIONS

All new buildings, repairs to building and removal of buildings must first be approved by the Council, after which a permit is issued.

The Electrical Code conforms to the Alberta Electrical Protection Act.

The Alberta Public Health Regulations govern the Sanitary By-Laws.

The village is policed by the R.C.M.P. from their detachment at Rocky Mountain House.

Garbage is collected weekly.

(11) FIRE PROTECTION

Very little in the way of fire protection.

The only equipment is an extinguisher and Electric Fire Siren.

(12) TAX STRUCTURE

	1949 Net Assessment
Land & Improvements 100% value	$250,455
Personal Property	158,575
Power	10,200
Total	$419,230

Mill Rate

School	Municipal	Hospital	Total
26	10	9	45 mills.

(13) AREAS

Area of Village	22.5 acres
Streets & Lanes	9.8 acres
Parks	-

Miles of Roads, Streets and Lanes

	Gravel	Unpaved	Unopened	Total
Provincial Main Roads & Streets	1.2	.4	-	1.6
Public Lanes & Alleys	-	.1	-	.1
Total				1.7

There are 2½ miles of cement sidewalks.

(14) SEWERS AND WATER MAIN MILEAGE

Not installed as yet.

(15) POWER

Three phase 60 cycle power is supplied under a ten year franchise by the Calgary Power.

Rates

Domestic Service

Available only for lighting, heating, cooking and domestic power and ordinary uses in private houses and apartment used exclusively for residential purposes.

First 20 KWH (or less) per month $3.00 gross minimum. Subject to 30¢ prompt payment discount making $2.70 net minimum
All over 20 KWH used per month 1.5 cents net per K.W.H.
Note : Discount of 30¢ applies on all bills paid within discount period.

The foregoing rate applies where the maximum demand does not exceed 5 Kilowatt. Where the demand exceeds 5 Kilowatt an additional monthly demand charge of 50¢ per

Kilowatt will be made.

Connection Charge for new customers $1.00

Reconnection Charge $5.40

Commercial Service

Available where other rates listed do not apply.

Service Charge

First 500 watts of installed capacity 10¢ per month
Each additional 250 watts of installed capacity .30¢ per month.

Energy Charge

First 50 KWH per month per K.W. of installation 10 cents per K.W.H.
Next 150 KWH per month per K.W. of installation 5 cents per K.W.H.
All over 200 KWH per month per K.W. of installation 2¼¢ per K.W.H.

Discount: 10% if paid within discount period, based on the even dollars only of total bill, with a minimum discount of 30 cents.

Minimum Charge $2.30 gross $2.00 net per month.
Minimum Deposit $4.60
Reconnection Charge $4.00

Power Service

(AC) Available for motors, rectifiers, commercial heating, apparatus, etc., in commercial establishments.

Service Charge

$1.00 per month per Kilovolt ampere (KVA) of installation (one motor horsepower or one kilowatt in heating apparatus to be considered equivalent to 1 KVA).

Energy Charge

First 50 K.W.H. per month per KVA of installation 5 cents per KWH.
Next 50 K.W.H. per month per KVA of installation 3-1/3¢ per KWH.
All over 100 K.W.H. per month per KVA of installation 1-2/3¢ per K.W.H.
Discount: 10% if paid within discount period - based on the even dollars only of total bill, with a minimum discount of 30 cents.

Minimum Charge $3.30 gross $3.00 net per month.
Minimum Deposit $2.00 per H.P. with a minimum of $6.00
Reconnection Charge $6.00

(16) WATER

Water is obtained from local wells, practically all homes have their own wells.

Water analysis not available.

(17) GAS

Not installed as yet.

(18) L.P. GAS

No agent in the village.

(19) DIESEL

Heat value 135,000 to 140,000 b.t.u. per gallon at 60°F,

Winter grade 20.2 cents per gallon plus 1 cent tax.
Summer grade 18.9 cents per gallon plus 1 cent tax.

(20) COAL

Coal is secured from the Drumheller and Saunders field.

Rates

	Slack	Nut.	Lump
Drumheller	$9.65	9.95	12.95
Saunders	11.00	12.00	14.00

(21) LOCAL RESOURCES

Lumber
Straw
Cereal
Grass Seed
Dairy Products, milk, cream, butter, etc.
Furs
Poultry
Horses, cattle, sheep, hogs,
Honey
Sand
Gravel

(22) GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND SERVICES

Federal

Post Office

Provincial

Treasury Branch
Telephone Office , Eckville Mutual

Municipal

Memorial Hall housing Secretary-Treasurer and Council Chambers.

(23) HEALTH SERVICES

Eckville Municipal Hospital No. 30 has 20 beds. There is a staff of one matron, three graduate nurses and three nurses' aides.

Rates

Ratepayers $1.00 per day Non ratepayers $4.75
Semi-private $2.00 per day Non-ratepayers $5.75

1 Private Practising Physician
1 Drug Store

(24) PROFESSIONAL AND SKILLED SERVICES

(not including health services)

Barristers and Lawyers	1 calling weekly
Beauty Parlors	2
Barber Shops	1
Public Accountant	2

(25) TRANSPORTATION

Canadian National Railway branch line Mirror to Nordegg
Canadian Pacific Railway branch line Red Deer to Rocky Mountain House
Sorenson Bus Line - Red Deer to Rocky Mountain House.
Daily truck service to and from Edmonton and Calgary.

(26) NEWSPAPERS

Eckville Examiner - Circulation 515

(27) COMMUNICATION

Canadian Pacific Telegraphs
Canadian National Railway Telegraph
Alberta Government Telephone
Post Office
Air mail through Post Office
Nearest Radio Station Red Deer CKRD.

(28) FINANCIAL FACILITIES

Imperial Bank of Canada
Treasury Branch
Eckville Credit Union

(29) HOTELS

	No. of Rooms	Rates	Licensed.
Eckville	16	$1.75 & up	yes.

(30) TOURISTS CAMPS

Nil

(31) CHURCHES

Presbyterian
Nazarene

(32) LODGES

Modern Woodmen of America

(33) SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Club
Board of Trade
Canadian Legion

(34) SOCIETIES

Agricultural Society
Red Cross Society
Fish & Game Association
Alberta Teachers Association

(35) EDUCATION

Eckville School Division No. 1459 maintains a five-room school with five full-time and one part-time teacher. There are 165 students in grades 1 to 12 inclusive. One van provides transportation for pupils living in the rural districts.

The following optional subjects are offered in the school:-

Typewriting
Stenography
Business
Art
Drama
Home Economics and Woodworking will be taught next season.

(36) THEATRES AND HALLS

	Capacity	Stage	Piano
Ecko	300	no	no
Memorial	500	yes	yes

(37) CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Drama Club in the school only.

(38) YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Girls	Boys
Nil	Calf Club

(39) SPORTS

Sports Association including:-

Baseball senior and junior
Hockey senior and junior
Softball senior and junior
Basketball
Football
Curling
Covered curling rink with two sheets of natural ice.
Open air skating and hockey rink.
Sports Ground
Children's playground

(40) FAIRS

Sports Day only

(41) HISTORIC SITES

Nil

(42) CO-OPERATIVES

Central Alberta Dairy Pool
Central Alberta Livestock Shipping Association
Alberta Pool Elevator
U. G. G.
Co-op General Store
Co-op Hardware
Co-op Machinery Distributors
Telephone Mutuals and Power Co-ops.

Co-op Seed Cleaning Plant
Maple Leaf Co-op Oil Distributors
Eckville Credit Union

(43) INDUSTRY & BUSINESS

Type of Business	No. of Establishments	Producer or Manufacturer	Whole-sale	Re-tail
Bakeries	1		1	1
Banks	2			2
Barbers	2			2
Butchers	2		2	2
Building Contractors	4			4
Blacksmith Shop	1			1
Cartage Delivery	1			1
Clothing (Women's)	1			1
Coal Dealers	2			2
Cold Storage Lockers	1			1
Creameries	1			1
Department Stores	2			2
Doctors	1			1
Drugs	1			1
Egg Grading Station	1			1
Electrical Appliances	2			2
Electrical Contractors	2			2
Feed Plant	1		1	1
Garages & Service Stations	7			7
Grain Elevators	4	Total Capacity Bu.120,000		
Hair Dressers	2			2
Hardware	3			3
Hotels	1			1
Harness Maker	1	1	1	1
Implements	4			4
Jewellers				
Lumber Yards	2		2	2
Lumber Mills	1	1	1	1
Milk Distributors	1		1	1
Oil Distributors	3		3	3
Painters & Decorators	2			2
Pool Rooms	1			1
Printing Shops	1		1	1
Public Accountants	2			2
Radio Repair	2			2
Restaurants	4			4
Seed Cleaning Plants	1		1	1
Shoe Repair	1			1
Sporting Shops	See Hardware Stores			
Tailor Shops	1			1
Theatres	1			1
Welding & Machine Shop	4			4

(44) SITES

Sites, with electricity, for large and small industries are available along the railway and highway. Homesites also served with electricity are available.

(45) INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Eckville can provide good living conditions and an opportunity for any industry that can use the district resources or provide a needed service for the trading area.

(46) TRADING AREA

On the North to Rimbey
On the West to Leslieville
On the South to Evergreen
On the East to Benalto

(47) POPULATION

Trading Area population 4493 1946 census
Village Population 195 1946 census
Village population at end of 1949 - 365 estimated

(48) INTERESTING VIEWS OF ECKVILLE AND DISTRICT


The
WILLSON
STATIONERY CO.
LIMITED
&
LOOSE LEAF
MANUFACTURERS

M.F. 105 M.